

"It Pays to Deal Where Satisfaction Is Guaranteed."

THE HOUSE OF QUALITY **Mayer & Co.** WE WILL TRUST YOU
409, 411, 413, 415 417 SEVENTH ST.

We Want Your Account.

We want you to realize the convenience of a charge account at this store. We will secure the benefit of your valued patronage, and you will be treated in a fair, honest and courteous manner, and secure merchandise that can be depended upon absolutely. And you can pay us as best suits your own convenience.

\$16 Tailored Men's Suits... \$11.50

Finely Tailored Single or Double-breasted Suits, in blacks and the popular fancy mixtures; well lined, nicely finished and easily worth \$16.00.

Men's \$15.00 Overcoats... \$10.75

Handsome Overcoat values, including both the new "French-back" models and the serviceable long, loose overcoats. The colors are grays, blacks, blues and Oxfords.



Ladies' Wear.

\$15 Plaid Tourist Coats \$10.39

Handsome Black and White Plaid Tourist Coats, full 50 inches in length; have mannish lapel collars, belt pockets, double-stitched strappings of cloth, full sleeves with cuffs, and trimmed with gun metal buttons.

\$23 Gray Plaid Suits \$16.48

Light gray invisible plaids, semi-fitting Norfolk effects; collarless, trimmed with silk Hercules braid, stitched strappings and belts; have full sleeves, cuffs trimmed with braid; jackets lined with satin and full flare skirts, stitched box-plated in front, and trimmed with folds of self material.



Ladies' Desks.

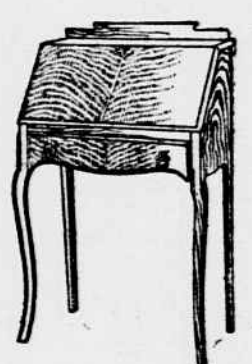
What could be a more appreciated gift? We have a magnificent assortment of Desks, in all desired finishes.

\$9.50 Quartered Oak Desk... \$6.49

Made of quartered oak; has carved top, French-shaped legs, lock and key, nicely pigeon-holed interior and highly polished.

Fine \$13.00 Mahogany Desk \$10.48

Very fine mahogany finish; has large French-plate mirror on top, nice drawer, French legs, pigeon holes and drawer in interior, and high "piano" polish.



Special Piano Sale.

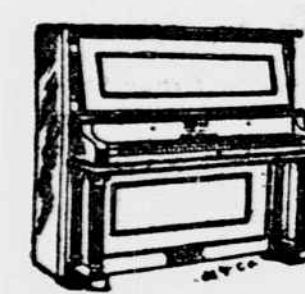
A piano sale at this time of the year should be especially interesting. Our Byrnes, Wagner and Schumann Pianos are instruments of the highest grade, and every one guaranteed ten years. A Christmas gift of one of these Pianos would give lifelong pleasure to its recipient.

Our Price \$198

Is for a piano better than is generally sold for \$250 or \$275. We have others at \$250, \$275 and up to \$500. We do not ask you to pay us interest on the piano you buy. You simply agree to settle the balance on our easy terms.

\$5.00 Down, \$1.00 a Week.

Guaranteed 10 Years. Stool, Scarf and Tuning Free.



The "Man's Store."

Big Selling of

Overcoats

at **\$13.75.**

Honestly Worth \$16.50.

About every other man you meet is wearing an "M. S. M." Overcoat. We've sold hundreds of them, and are getting busier every day. Making a great hit with this elegant line of Olympian college models, in graceful, semi-form-fitting Overcoats. Worth \$16.50. Special at

\$13.75.

"M. S. M." Overcoats at \$20 and \$25.

Elegant hand-tailored garments—the aristocracy of overcoatdom—shown in all the fashionable models and all the most exclusive stuffs. The best values ever offered at \$20 and \$25.



Suits Are Selling

Without advertising. In fact they advertise and sell themselves. The greatest values you have ever been offered in high-class "M. S. M." tailored suits are here at \$11.75, \$13.75, \$15.50, \$20, \$25 and \$30.

Money's Worth or Money Back.

D. J. Kaufman,

1005-7 Pa. Ave.

ROUTED BY FIRE FIGHTERS

Nine Incendiary Fires in One Night in New York.

WEST SIDE IN A PANIC

Motive of the Crimes is a Total Mystery.

NO ROBBERIES WERE REPORTED

Two Men Have Been Arrested on Suspicion, but Declare They Were Only Spectators.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

NEW YORK, December 7.—Nine incendiary fires started on the Upper West Side between the hours of 8:45 o'clock last night and 4:30 o'clock this morning. Of all the fires of suspicious origin which have occurred within the last month, these seem to have been laid with the greatest daring and cunning. No lives were lost only because the firemen and the police were prompt to respond, as they have been on other occasions. At great risk of their own lives, in many instances, they took tenants down the fire ladders or carried them out over the roofs.

Two hundred families were routed out of their homes and an entire neighborhood was thrown into intense excitement by the rattle of the fire apparatus, the columns of smoke rising here and there and the glow of the flames.

Never in the history of the fire department have the firemen known of more desperate efforts to destroy property. If the fires were set for the purpose of robbery, the incendiaries were not wholly successful, for no robberies were reported to the police. The big guard of police thrown around the fire zone probably had a deterrent effect on would-be thieves.

Much Damage Done.

The first fire broke out at 8:45 o'clock last night. This was the only blaze which was not in a building. It was discovered in a vacant lot at 103d street and Broadway. There is a quantity of building material there and some of it had been smeared with oil. The firemen made short work of the flames.

The second fire was discovered at 9:06 o'clock in the rear basement of the five-story tenement at 212 West 106th street, against the dumb-waiter shaft; a quantity of shavings and excelsior had been saturated with oil and then the blaze had been kindled. An alarm was turned in and the fire was put out after it had caused a loss of \$200.

The third fire was at 840 Columbus avenue, at 11:32 o'clock. Like the second fire, this was set at the dumb-waiter shaft in a pile of shavings. The flames shot up the shaft with great rapidity and were accompanied by thick volleys of smoke. The blaze had been kindled before all the tenants were well out of their beds that they were obliged to take to the front and rear escapes.

Three minutes after the fire—in fact, before the fire had gained full headway, there occurred another blaze at 11:35 o'clock in the bottom of the dumb-waiter shaft of 863 Columbus avenue, a five-story apartment sheltering fifteen families. Small loss was caused here.

Two Men Arrested.

An hour went by and the neighborhood was trying hard to be calm when the cry of "fire" was raised once again. This time the trouble was 871 Amsterdam avenue. The fire here had been built underneath a staircase again in excelsior saturated with oil and it had a good start. There were fifteen families in the building, who were routed into the cold without having time to dress sufficiently for protection.

About this time Dr. W. C. Hough of 213 West 104th street and O. C. William Bennett of 146 West 103d street, who had been out together for a walk, saw two men lurking about the scene of this fire, who appeared to them to be acting suspiciously. Dr. Hough and Col. Bennett also had an idea that they had seen these men at the other fires. They were so impressed with this opinion that they notified the police, and the two latter were arrested. They were held merely on suspicion until the authorities could determine whether or not there is anything to base a charge on.

The next fire, the sixth, was discovered at 200 West 101st street, a five-story structure, sheltering twenty families. The fire was underneath a winding staircase in the basement, near the elevator shaft, and was gaining headway rapidly, and the firemen were obliged to put up ladders to the first and second floors. Down the fire ladders, members of the twenty families were soon clambering. The damage here amounted to \$5,000.

Rescued with Difficulty.

The seventh fire started at 197 102d street, at 12:30 o'clock. The fire was in a dumb-waiter shaft, and the damage was slight.

The engines were on their way back to quarters when they were called back to put out a blaze in the cellar of 661 Columbus avenue, that did \$2,000 worth of damage.

The last fire was at 4:30 o'clock at 106 West 106th street, a five-story apartment house sheltering fifteen families. Rubbish had been piled up against the dumb-waiter shaft and set on fire. Policemen rescued Mrs. Julia Noonan, a paralytic, and Mrs. Anna Bird, who was suffering from rheumatism. They had to be carried out by way of a roof and over the adjoining roofs down through 110. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cohen and Mr. and Mrs. William Wentworth were rescued with difficulty, being carried down ladders. The damage here was \$5,000.

The men arrested are Joseph Glascock of 829 Columbus avenue and John Stace of 105 West 106th street. They were arraigned in the Harlem police court later in the day and were held in \$2,000 bail each for examination next Monday. Both men declared they were merely watching several of the fires.

FOR DISTRICT EXHIBIT

CONGRESS ASKED TO PROVIDE BUILDING AT JAMESTOWN.

After a conference with Thomas W. Smith, chairman of the joint committee of the Board of Trade, Business Men's Association and the Jobbers and Shippers' Association, yesterday afternoon the board of Commissioners determined, upon the motion of Commissioner Macfarland, to ask Congress for an appropriation of \$25,000 for the erection of a District of Columbia building, and an appropriate exhibit of models of Washington buildings at the Jamestown exposition.

Mr. Smith informed the commissioners that this sum would be sufficient, as the erection of the building and its maintenance and caretaking could be creditably done without using more than four-fifths of the entire appropriation, and what money is left over can be expended for the preparation of the necessary models and objects to be placed in the building. It is the plan of those managing this project to use the White House as the model of the District of Columbia building. Mr. Smith's views assisted the Commissioners in reaching a conclusion.

"Every effort will be made by the Commissioners," said Commissioner West, "to induce the appropriations committee of the Senate and House to agree to an appropriation for the erection and maintenance of a District of Columbia building during the seven months of the Jamestown exposition."

J. & W. Eiseman, 315 7th St.

The Underselling Store,

Sensational Underselling Values in Sensible Xmas Gifts for Men and Women. Easy Credit Terms.

Gifts for Women.

Every woman appreciates a gift of something to wear. Our big stock of Holiday Apparel for Women is replete with sensible gift suggestions. Everything is offered at UNDERSELLING PRICES and on the EASIEST OF EASY CREDIT TERMS.



Stylish Tourist Coats, worth \$11.98; underpriced at - - \$7.98

An ideal gift for a woman. Fashionable 50-inch Tourist Coats, man-tailored of the best plaids for this season—shown in crushed velvet, gray mixtures. They have velvet inlaid collars and patch pockets. Sold regularly at \$11.98; our underselling price.....

Children's and Misses' Coats, worth \$7.50; \$3.98 underpriced at - - \$3.98

We bought these Coats at a bargain and we offer them to you the same way. All the latest styles in crushed velvet, gray astrakhan and serviceable cloth; sizes 2 to 16 years. Coats made to sell at \$7.50; our special underselling price.....

Women's \$22.50 Suits, \$14.98.

The most popular Suit special ever offered in this city. We're adding new Suits to the line every day. The variety of styles includes the latest Prince Chap, Pony, Eton and tight-fitting coats and the newest pleated and flare skirts. Shown in all good fabrics and every wanted shade and black; suits well worth \$22.50; special Xmas underselling price.....

\$4 Silk Waists, \$1.98.

Another small lot of those Plain White Japanese Silk Waists to sell at a bargain price. Made in the latest styles and prettily trimmed with lace. Waists that are well worth \$4; our underselling price.....

\$8 Skirts, \$4.98.

These are Swell Man-tailored Walking Skirts, and they are shown in pleated, fancy pleated and French flare styles. Made of the best black and blue all-wool fabrics and made of carefully selected skins. Worth \$8; our underselling price.....

Surprising Values in Fine Furs.

One of the leading fur dealers of New York accepted our cash offer for his entire balance of stock of Fine Furs. The lot is made up of the most stylish and expensive with muffs to match—made of carefully selected skins. These goods will go on sale tomorrow and gift buyers will reap the benefit of the extraordinary bargains. As an example of the values we shall sell

\$7.50 Fur Scarfs for \$4.98.

These are the new 134-yard Throw Scarfs and are well made of fine black lynx and the best blended squirrel. They can't be equaled under \$7.50; our special underselling price.....

Large Pillow Muffs to match, \$4.98.

J. & W. Eiseman, "Charge the Bill" 315 7th St.

RICHARD W. HENDERSON

—offers for your inspection the finest specimens of Drawing Room, Dining Room, Library and Bed Room

FURNITURE.

Rich and exclusively designed Solid Mahogany pieces are a feature of these stocks. Many suggestions for gift seekers.

1109 F Street N.W.

no. 1016, 40

MR. JOHN CROPPER DEAD

BODY FOUND IN A ROOM WHERE GAS WAS TURNED ON.

Coroner Issues Certificate That Demise Was Result of Accident—Mrs. Cropper Notified.

John Cropper, a retired lawyer, who was prominent in social circles in this city and New York, was found dead in the bath room at his home, 172 M street, this morning about 7 o'clock. The gas was turned on and Coroner Nevitt gave a certificate that death was caused by inhalation of gas, the result of an accident. Just how the accident occurred, however, will never be known, as it was probably several hours after Mr. Cropper entered the room that his body was found and he was the only one who knew of the circumstances. Dr. Bromwell, the family physician, and another physician responded to a call shortly after 7 o'clock, but they found that life was extinct and that the presence of the coroner was necessary. While Coroner Nevitt gave the certificate mentioned, he stated that it was possible and probable that Mr. Cropper suffered an attack of heart trouble after he reached the bath room and was rendered helpless.

Dr. Nevitt expressed the belief that the gas had been accidentally turned on when Mr. Cropper passed the gas jet, which projected from the wall. A host of friends of the deceased called at the house during the early hours of the morning, among them being Gen. Ernst and Mr. Arthur Brice. They took charge and telephoned to Mrs. Cropper, who was in New York visiting friends, and sad information. Mrs. Cropper stated that she would depart from New York upon the first train. She reached here this afternoon.

Prepared for Burial.

Friends of the deceased had Undertaker Gawler take charge of the body and prepare it for interment. It was stated at the house this afternoon that the arrangements for the funeral will probably be announced to-night.

Mr. Cropper, who was fifty-six years of age, was a native of New York. He came to this city about twenty years ago, and he and Mrs. Cropper soon became favorites in the social world. He was a member of a

PETTIT & COMPANY, Cor. Seventh & "Eye" Sts.

Men's Suits and Overcoats at Savings of \$4.60 to \$7.50.

A purchase of one of the foremost makers' stock, and the consequent offering of it at prices which you wouldn't expect until after the backbone of winter has been broken.

Arrange to pay for them in weekly or monthly amounts if you wish.

There is never a time when the credit accommodation is withheld from you. The sale has been successful because it has been an honest sale. We have told you the circumstances which created it. We have told you that our guarantee holds as firmly at the reduced prices as though you paid every penny of their worth.

Suits and Overcoats worth up to \$15, \$10.40.

Suits and Overcoats worth up to \$22, \$14.50.

Pettit & Company,

Stores in Richmond, Harrisburg and Roanoke.

Seventh and "Eye" Sts.



number of clubs, among them being the Metropolitan and the Chevy Chase Golf Club and the Society of the Cincinnati. It is thought that it was about daybreak when Mr. Cropper went to the bath room. Two servants, a man and woman, were in the house last night, but they knew nothing of what had occurred until 7 o'clock, when the colored man, Jesse Butters, detected the odor of gas from the bath room. He saw Mr. Cropper there and concluded that he was in a serious condition. He turned the gas off and then summoned the physicians.

During his investigation the coroner was told that the door to the bath room was found, and there were other indications that the death of Mr. Cropper was the result of an accident.

It is stated that Mr. and Mrs. Cropper have traveled extensively, having visited all the foreign countries. Two maiden sisters of the deceased, it is stated, are now touring Europe.

Notification to Friends.

Messages were sent to several New York

friends of the Cropper family telling them of the death of Mr. Cropper, and several of them are expected to reach here tonight or tomorrow morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Cropper's home on M street has been the scene of much delightful hospitality, not only in the interests of their own associates, but also for the younger members of the families of their friends. Their entertainments were always a delightful blending of old-fashioned and modern customs in a home which had many historic articles of adornment and use in most tasteful settings.

Earthquakes in California.

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Cal., December 7.—At 10:40 o'clock last night this city experienced an earthquake which lasted more than thirty seconds. The shock was from north to south. Half an hour later a second shock was felt, but was not so pronounced

as the first. The earthquake also was felt at Santa Maria, Guadalupe, Cayuces and Cambria. At the latter place articles were shaken from shelves. No perceptible damage was sustained here.

\$200,000 Fire in Pittsburg.

PITTSBURG, Pa., December 7.—The plant of the International Portland Cement Company at Elizabethtown, Pa., near here, was damaged by fire today to the extent of \$200,000. Two three-story buildings, 200 by 80 feet each, were entirely destroyed, and the stock building, another large structure, was partially burned.